

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the endothelium-preserving treatment of hollow organs, comprising the step of contacting an isolated hollow organ with an endothelium-protective perfusion solution, wherein the endothelium-protective perfusion solution comprises at least the following components: (a) physiological electrolyte solution; (b) ~~at least about 0.1% per weight of native albumin~~ a component selected from the group consisting of (i) at least about 1-10 vol-% homologous hemolysin-free serum or autologous serum, and (ii) a homologous anti-coagulatory blood plasma preparation comprising human plasma proteins, anti-coagulatory-acting factors and immunoglobulins in which the pro-coagulatory-acting factors, isoagglutinins and unstable components of the blood plasma have been removed; and (c) a nutrient substrate; wherein the treatment results in a preservation or repair of the endothelial tissue in the lumen of said hollow organ.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said ~~native albumin in said endothelium-protective perfusion solution is replaced by about 1-10 vol-%~~ component (b) comprises said homologous hemolysin-free serum or autologous serum.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said ~~native albumin in said endothelium-protective perfusion solution is replaced by a~~ component (b) comprises said homologous anti-coagulatory blood plasma preparation, ~~which comprises human plasma proteins, anti-coagulatory-acting factors and immunoglobulins, and in which the pro-coagulatory-acting factors, isoagglutinins and unstable components of the blood plasma have been removed.~~

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the anti-coagulatory blood plasma preparation contains sodium ions, potassium ions, calcium ions, magnesium ions, chloride ions, human serum proteins, albumin and immunoglobulins.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the anti-coagulatory blood plasma preparation comprises the following composition: about 100-170 mM sodium ions, about 1-15 mM potassium ions, about 1-6 mM calcium ions, about 0.1-4 mM magnesium ions, about 50-200 mM chloride ions, human serum proteins with about 25-45 g/l albumin, about 3-15 g/l IgG, about 1-10 g/l IgA and about 0.2-3 g/l IgM immunoglobulins at a pH value of about 7.3 to about 7.8 and an osmolarity of about 200-350 mosmol/kg.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said nutrient substrate in said endothelium-protective perfusion solution is L-glutamine.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the concentration of L-glutamine in said endothelium-protective perfusion solution is about 0.5-10 mM.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said physiological electrolyte solution is selected from the group consisting of about 2-10 mM glucose and/or and about 1-10 mM pyruvate.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said physiological electrolyte solution is selected from the group consisting of about 0.1-0.6 U/ml heparin, about 50-100 μ M of uric acid and about 50-100 μ M of ascorbate.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said physiological electrolyte

solution comprises the following components: about 100-150 mM NaCl; about 1-15 mM KCl; about 0.1-4 mM MgSO₄; about 0.5-2 mM KH₂PO₄; about 24-48 mM histidin-Cl and about 1-3 mM CaCl₂.

11. (Canceled) ~~The method of claim 1, wherein the endothelium-protective perfusion solution is an anti-coagulatory and non-agglutinating blood plasma preparation, comprising human plasma proteins, anti-coagulatory acting factors and immunoglobulins, and in which the pro-coagulatory acting factors, isoagglutinins and unstable components of the blood plasma have been removed.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [1-] 3, wherein ~~the~~ said blood plasma preparation comprises the following components: about 100-170 sodium ions, about 1-15 mM potassium ions, about 1-6 mM calcium ions, about 0.1-4 mM magnesium ions, about 50-200 mM chloride ions, about 25-45 g/l albumin, about 3-15 g/l IgG, about 1-10 g/l IgA and about 0.2-3 g/l IgM immunoglobulins.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ said blood plasma preparation ~~was~~ is treated with β -propiolactone and UV-radiation for virus inactivation.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said perfusion solution contains one or more endothelium-promoting growth factors.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said growth factor is selected from the group consisting of epidermal growth factor (EGF), fibroblast growth factor (FGF), vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and stem cell factor (SCF).

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said perfusion solution contains flavonoids.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the flavonoid is quercetin or trihydroxyethyl rutoside.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said perfusion solution contains papaverin or adenosine.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said perfusion solution contains cardioplegic concentrations of potassium of more than about 6 mM.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said hollow organ is selected from the group consisting of a heart, intestine, uterus, kidney, bladder, lung, liver and spleen.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said hollow organs are biological vessels.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said biological vessels are blood vessels or lymphatic vessels.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) An endothelium-protective perfusion solution comprising: (a) physiological electrolyte solution (b) ~~at least about 0.1% per weight of native albumin~~ a component selected from the group consisting of (i) at least about 1-10 vol-% homologous

hemolysin-free serum or autologous serum, and (ii) a homologous anti-coagulatory blood plasma preparation comprising human plasma proteins, anti-coagulatory-acting factors and immunoglobulins in which the pro-coagulatory-acting factors, isoagglutinins and unstable components of the blood plasma have been removed; and (c) about 0.5 to 10 mM L-glutamine.

25. (Currently Amended) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein said ~~native albumin is replaced by~~ component (b) comprises said about 1-10 vol-% homologous hemolysin-free serum or autologous serum.

26. (Currently Amended) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein said ~~native albumin in the endothelium-protective perfusion solution is replaced by a~~ component (b) comprises said homologous anti-coagulatory blood plasma preparation, ~~comprising human plasma proteins, anti-coagulatory-acting factors and immunoglobulins, and in which the pro-coagulatory-acting factors, isoagglutinins and unstable components of the blood plasma have been removed.~~

27. (Original) The perfusion solution of claim 26, wherein the anti-coagulatory blood plasma preparation contains sodium ions, potassium ions, calcium ions, magnesium ions, chloride ions, human serum proteins, albumin and immunoglobulins.

28. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 27, wherein the anti-coagulatory blood plasma preparation comprises the following composition: about 100-170 mM sodium ions, about 1-15 mM potassium ions, about 1-6 mM calcium ions, about 0.1-4 mM magnesium ions, about 50-200 mM chloride ions, human serum proteins with about 25-45 g/l albumin, about 3-15 g/l IgG, about 1-10 g/l IgA and about 0.2-3 g/l IgM immunoglobulins at a pH value of about 7.3

to about 7.8 and an osmolarity of about 200-350 mosmol/kg.

29. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein the concentration of L-glutamine is about 2.5 mM.

30. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein the concentration of L-glutamine is about 5 mM.

31. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein the concentration of L-glutamine is about 7.5 mM.

32. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein said physiological electrolyte solution comprises the following components: about 100-150 mM NaCl; about 1-15 mM KCl; about 0.1-4 mM MgSO₄; about 0.5-2 mM KH₂PO₄; about 2448 mM histidin-Cl and about 1-3 mM CaCl₂.

33. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 32, wherein said physiological electrolyte solution contains about 2-10 mM glucose or about 1-10 mM pyruvate.

34. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein said physiological electrolyte solution is selected from the group consisting of about 0.1-0.6 U/ml heparin, 50-100 μ M of uric acid and about 50-100 μ M of ascorbate.

35. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein the pH value in said physiological electrolyte solution is about 7.4+/-about 0.04 under atmospheric condition.

36. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein said endothelium-protective perfusion solution further contains antibiotics.

37. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 36, wherein said antibiotics are about 50-400 U/ml penicillin or about 0.1-0.4 mg/ml streptomycin.

38. (Canceled) ~~The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein said perfusion solution is an anti-coagulatory and non-agglutinating blood plasma preparation, comprising human plasma proteins, anti-coagulatory-acting factors and immunoglobulins, and in which the pro-coagulatory-acting factors, isoagglutinins and unstable components of the blood plasma have been removed.~~

39. (Currently Amended) The perfusion solution of claim 26 ~~method of claim 38~~, wherein the said blood plasma preparation comprises the following components: about 100-170 sodium ions, about 1-15 mM potassium ions, about 1-6 mM calcium ions, about 0.1-4 mM magnesium ions, about 50-200 mM chloride ions, about 25-45 g/l albumin, about 3-15 g/l IgG, about 1-10 g/l IgA and about 0.2-3 g/l IgM immunoglobulins.

40. (Currently Amended) The perfusion solution of claim 39, wherein ~~the~~ said blood plasma preparation ~~was~~ is treated with β -propiolactone and UV-radiation for virus inactivation.

41. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein said perfusion solution contains one or more endothelium-promoting growth factors.

42. (Original) The perfusion solution of claim 41, wherein said growth factor is selected from the group consisting of epidermal growth factor (EGF), fibroblast growth factor (FGF), vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and stem cell factor (SCF).

43. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein said perfusion solution contains flavonoids.

44. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 43, wherein the flavonoid is quercetin or trihydroxyethyl rutoside.

45. (Currently Amended) The perfusion solution of claim 24 ~~any one of claims 25-44~~, wherein said perfusion solution contains papaverin or adenosine.

46. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein said perfusion solution contains cardioplegic concentrations of potassium of more than about 6 mM.

47. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for the endothelium-preserving treatment of isolated biological vessels comprising a chamber, an axially movable stamp, a cannula, a reservoir container, which contains an endothelium-preserving perfusion liquid and a sealing device, wherein the cannula is connected with the axially moveable stamp such that the cannula can be moved together with the stamp into the chamber, and wherein the sealing device can clasp one end of the vessel and the cannula is connected with the other end of the vessel such that the endothelium-protective perfusion solution can be selectively directed into the biological vessel from the reservoir container, preferably under a pressure gradient.

48. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein said sealing device comprises sealing discs which are arranged in stacks in a knurled thumb screw.

49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the sealing discs have a diameter

36. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein said endothelium-protective perfusion solution further contains antibiotics.

37. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 36, wherein said antibiotics are about 50-400 U/ml penicillin or about 0.1-0.4 mg/ml streptomycin.

38. (Canceled) ~~The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein said perfusion solution is an anti-coagulatory and non-agglutinating blood plasma preparation, comprising human plasma proteins, anti-coagulatory acting factors and immunoglobulins, and in which the pro-coagulatory acting factors, isoagglutinins and unstable components of the blood plasma have been removed.~~

39. (Currently Amended) The perfusion solution of claim 26 ~~method of claim 38~~, wherein the said blood plasma preparation comprises the following components: about 100-170 sodium ions, about 1-15 mM potassium ions, about 1-6 mM calcium ions, about 0.1-4 mM magnesium ions, about 50-200 mM chloride ions, about 25-45 g/l albumin, about 3-15 g/l IgG, about 1-10 g/l IgA and about 0.2-3 g/l IgM immunoglobulins.

40. (Currently Amended) The perfusion solution of claim 39, wherein ~~the~~ said blood plasma preparation ~~was~~ is treated with β -propiolactone and UV-radiation for virus inactivation.

41. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein said perfusion solution contains one or more endothelium-promoting growth factors.

42. (Original) The perfusion solution of claim 41, wherein said growth factor is selected from the group consisting of epidermal growth factor (EGF), fibroblast growth factor (FGF), vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) and stem cell factor (SCF).

43. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein said perfusion solution contains flavonoids.

44. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 43, wherein the flavonoid is quercetin or trihydroxyethyl rutoside.

45. (Currently Amended) The perfusion solution of claim 24 ~~any one of claims 25-44~~, wherein said perfusion solution contains papaverin or adenosine.

46. (Previously Presented) The perfusion solution of claim 24, wherein said perfusion solution contains cardioplegic concentrations of potassium of more than about 6 mM.

47. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for the endothelium-preserving treatment of isolated biological vessels comprising a chamber, an axially movable stamp, a cannula, a reservoir container, which contains an endothelium-preserving perfusion liquid and a sealing device, wherein the cannula is connected with the axially moveable stamp such that the cannula can be moved together with the stamp into the chamber, and wherein the sealing device can clasp one end of the vessel and the cannula is connected with the other end of the vessel such that the endothelium-protective perfusion solution can be selectively directed into the biological vessel from the reservoir container, preferably under a pressure gradient.

48. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein said sealing device comprises sealing discs which are arranged in stacks in a knurled thumb screw.

49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the sealing discs have a diameter